

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: June 23, 2004

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MEDIA ADVISORY Bird Tests Positive for West Nile Virus in Williams County Department of Health Schedules Media Conference Call

BISMARCK, N.D. – To answer media questions about the report of a bird in Williams County that tested positive for West Nile virus, the North Dakota Department of Health will hold a telephone media availability Wednesday, June 23, 2004, at 2 p.m. The following officials will participate in the 2 p.m. conference call:

- Dr. Craig Lambrecht, state medical officer, North Dakota Department of Health
- Larry Shireley, state epidemiologist, North Dakota Department of Health
- Tracy Miller, West Nile Virus Surveillance Program manager, North Dakota Department of Health
- Mike Melius, executive officer, Upper Missouri District Health Unit, Williston, N.D.

To connect to the conference call, the media is asked to follow these steps:

- 1) Dial 866.262.1846.
- 2) Once you are connected, enter *3282378*. (Please note: The star key must be pressed before and after the pin number.)
- 3) If you have trouble connecting, call the help desk at 800.263.3863 option 2.

Members of the media who wish to attend in person can meet at 2 p.m. in AV Room 210 on the second floor of the Judicial Wing in the State Capitol Building, Bismarck, N.D.

A news release related to the reported WNV-positive bird will be distributed prior to the conference call. For more information about the conference call, contact Loreeta Leer Frank, public information officer, at 701.328.1665.